

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 259286

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FOLLOWING REPEAT THE HAGUE 5690 ACTION SECSTATE INFO
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C O N F I D E N T I A L THE HAGUE 5690

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, NL

SUBJ: PROPOSED AWARDING OF WATELER PEACE PRIZE TO
SECRETARY DURING NATO MINISTERIAL

FOR ASST. SECY HARTMAN

1. AS DEPT MAY RECALL SECRETARY KISSINGER WAS ADVISED
HE HAD BEEN AWARDED WATELER PEACE PRIZE EARLY LAST
SUMMER AND AGREED TO ACCEPT SAME. SINCE TIME AND PLACE
OF AWARD CEREMONY HAVE NOT SO FAR BEEN ESTABLISHED,
SECRETARY'S SELECTION HAS NOT BEEN MADE PUBLIC.

2. THIS ANNUAL AWARD, ESTABLISHED BY WILL OF A DUTCH
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NATIONAL IN 1927, IS GIVEN ALTERNATIVELY TO A DUTCHMAN

AND A FOREIGNER. THE RECIPIENT IS SELECTED BY THE PRESTIGIOUS BOARD OF THE CARNEGIE FOUNDATION OF THE NETHERLANDS WHICH OWNS THE PEACE PALACE, SEAT OF THE ICJ. CHAIRMAN OF CARNEGIE BOARD IS HERMAN VAN ROYEN, FORMER DUTCH AMBASSADOR TO U.S. AND AMONG THE NETHERLANDS' MOST REVERED SENIOR CITIZENS.

3. VAN ROYEN AND THE CARNEGIE BOARD HAD HOPED THAT SECRETARY'S TRAVELS DURING THE PAST SUMMER AND FALL MIGHT HAVE INCLUDED A VISIT TO THE NETHERLANDS AT WHICH TIME THE AWARD CEREMONY COULD HAVE TAKEN PLACE. THEY NOW REALIZE THAT POSSIBILITY OF VISIT TO THE NETHERLANDS IS REMOTE IN VIEW OF SECRETARY'S ENORMOUS COMMITMENTS ELSEWHERE. ACCORDINGLY, VAN ROYEN HAS SUGGESTED TO ME THAT THE PRIZE BE GIVEN TO THE SECRETARY IN BRUSSELS WITHIN THE TIME FRAME OF THE UPCOMING NATO MINISTERIAL, AND THAT HE WOULD BE PLEASED TO COME TO BRUSSELS FOR SUCH PRESENTATION ASSUMING THAT SECRETARY'S SCHEDULE CAN ACCOMMODATE IT.

4. FONMIN VAN DER STOEL, WHO IS URGENTLY REQUESTING MEETING WITH SECRETARY ON CIVAIR ISSUE (THE HAGUE 5642), DURING OUR YESTERDAY'S CONVERSATION ENDORSED VAN ROYEN'S PROPOSAL ADDING HIS DESIRE TO ATTEND ANY SUCH CEREMONY.

5. RECOMMENDATION: THAT SECRETARY ACCEPT THE VAN ROYEN-VAN DER STOEL PROPOSAL TO PRESENT WATERLER AWARD AT BRIEF CEREMONY DURING NATO MINISTERIAL TIME FRAME. AWARDING TO SECRETARY OF WATERLER PEACE PRIZE WITH ITS CONCOMITANT FAVORABLE IMPACT ON PUBLIC OPINION HERE WOULD COME AT A USEFUL TIME IN VIEW OF THE NOTICEABLY NEGATIVE REACTION WHICH OUR CIVAIR STRATEGY HAS AROUSED IN THE DUTCH GOVERNMENT AND PUBLIC.

6. REQUEST: EARLY DECISION ON VAN ROYEN PROPOSAL IN ORDER TO GIVE DUTCH AMPLE LEAD TIME AND ALLOW MAXIMIZATION OF BENEFICIAL PUBLICITY IF PROPOSAL IS ACCEPTED.

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